Supplementary Liturgies

of the Moravian Church

APPROVED BY THE

Provincial Synod of 1941 for

Provisional Use in the Churches

†

Published by

The Christian Education Board

at the request of Synod

LITURGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF MINISTERS

¶ All standing, the official charged with the installation shall say, and the congregation respond:

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up unto the Lord.

O, how blessed is the station — Hymn 281
Of all those who love the Lord;
Who partake of His salvation,
Trusting in His sacred word:
Blest who, in love's bond united
To His altars are invited;
In His courts on earth they dwell,
There His matchless praise to tell.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He went to the place of departed spirits. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting: Amen.

The Church's one Foundation — Hymn 260
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy Bride;
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

Christ loved the Church, and gave Himself up for it that He might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that He might present it unto Himself a glorious Church, holy and without blemish.

We own Him to be Head over all things to the Church, which is His body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.

He is the Faithful Witness, the First-born of (or, from among) the dead, and the Ruler of the Kings of the earth.

He hath made us to be a kingdom, to be priests unto His God and Father: to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¶ Here shall the congregation be seated.

Finish then, Thy new creation; Hymn 490
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye were called in one hope of your calling: one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, Who is over all and through all and in all. But unto each of us was the grace given according to the measure of the gift of Christ, Who gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.

For the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the body of Christ.

Dearly beloved: We are here assembled to install Brother..... as pastor of the ..... congregation, to which holy office he has been called by the Provincial Elders Conference of the Moravian Church, with the approval of the joint board of this congregation.

¶ Here shall the minister rise.

Brother ....., do you now promise, in the presence of the Head of the Church, and of this people, that, by the grace of God, you will endeavor, in accordance with your ordination vows, faithfully to discharge all the duties of a Pastor to this congregation; being careful at all times to conduct yourself as becomes a minister of the Gospel of Christ?

I do.

¶ Here shall the members of the Joint-Board of the congregation rise.

Do you, the officers of this congregation, now receive Brother .... as the head and shepherd of this flock?

We do.

Do you promise to hold him in becoming respect as he labors among you, sustaining him with your love and prayers, defending and upholding with him, the doctrine and discipline of the church?

Do you promise to supply him with the maintenance to which he is entitled, so as to promote his happiness among you, and to maintain the honor of our holy religion?

We do.

¶ Here shall the members of the congregation rise.

Will you, the people of this congregation, now receive Brother .... in due love and honor, as your pastor? Will you ac-

cept the word of truth from his mouth in meekness and faith? Will you encourage him in all his endeavors among you, joining him in prayer and labor for the extension of the kingdom of our Lord in this community?

We will.

In this sacred hour, I charge you, the people of the ..... congregation, to remember the words of our Lord Jesus: "I am the Vine, ye are branches; He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same beareth much fruit"; and I charge you, my brother, to remember the words of our Lord Jesus to Simon Peter: "Lovest thou Me? Feed my lambs! Tend my sheep! Feed my sheep!"

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church, and by the authority of the Provincial Elder's Conference, I declare Brother ..... to be duly installed as pastor of the ..... congregation. Let us pray.

¶ Here shall all kneel, while the brother officiating in the installation shall invoke upon both pastor and congregation, the blessing of the Triune God; whereupon, all standing, he shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the new pastor, while the congregation unites in singing:

Let Thy presence go with us, Hymn 311
Saviour, else we dare not move;
With Thy aid, and guided thus,
We will go, constrained by love;
Serve Thy cause with all our might,
Deeming every burden light;
And, if favored with success,
To Thee render all the praise.

THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS UPON REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

¶ All standing, the Minister shall say and the congregation respond:

Lord God, our Father, Who art in heaven.

Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever: Amen.

Lord God, Son, Thou Saviour of the world.

Own us to be Thine.

Lord God, Holy Ghost,

Abide with us forever.

T. HOLY LORD (119, A) Hymn 262

We entreat, we entreat,
Lord, lift up Thy countenance
On Thy ransomed congregation;
Grace to every soul dispense:
May we all, each in his station,
Daily in Thy great salvation share:
Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

¶ Then shall the Minister ask and the candidate respond:

Do you believe in your heart, and confess with your mouth, the divine truths of the Holy Scriptures; and do you now declare your desire, by the grace of God, to abide by them, as the rule of your conduct in life, and the ground of your hope in death?

I do.

Do you believe in God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, in Whose Name you have been baptized; and do you ground the assurance of the forgiveness of your sins and acceptance with God, solely on His mercy and the all-sufficient merits of our Lord Jesus Christ?

I do.

Are you resolved by grace, cleaving to Christ your Saviour, faithfully to serve Him as Lord within the fellowship of this Church, in conformity to the principles of its Brotherly Agreement?

I am.

¶ Then shall the Minister offer prayer, after which he shall extend the right hand of fellowship to each candidate while the congregation sings:

T. HUS (22, F) Hymn 290

Here in the Name of Christ our Lord,
The Church's Head by all adored,
With Christian love and purpose true,
This Brethren's Church receiveth you.
With heart and hand you now we own;
The Lord, to Whom your heart is known,
Cause your whole walk with us to be
His joy and your felicity.

You have confessed the good confession in the sight of many witnesses. I charge you in the sight of God Who giveth life to all things and of Christ Jesus Who before Pontius Pilate witnessed the good confession, that you keep the commandment without spot and without reproach, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Amen.

T. HUS (22, F) Hymn 290

The God of peace you sanctify
And bless you richly from on high,
That spirit, soul, and body may
Be blameless till His perfect day.

LITURGY FOR THE DEDICATION OF CHURCH FURNISHINGS

¶ Here shall the congregation rise.

CHOIR: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
CONGREGATION: *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ The Minister shall say, and the congregation respond:
O come let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

Know ye that the Lord, He is God: It is He that hath made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

To the glory of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

We dedicate this .....

¶ When suitable, the following or a similar statement and response shall be used:

In grateful and loving memory of ..... to whose beneficence we are indebted for this..... which we now set apart unto the uses of worship in the House of God:

We dedicate this .....

To the praise and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who .....

(Here shall the minister introduce verses of Scripture appropriate to the uses of the article being dedicated; in the case of articles for use in connection with the sacraments, the words of institution shall be employed)

We dedicate this .....

All praise and thanks to God — Hymn 661
The Father now be given;
The Son, and Him Who reigns
With them in highest heaven;
The one eternal God
Whom heaven and earth adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

¶ All kneeling, the minister shall offer a prayer of thanksgiving suitable to the occasion, at the conclusion of which the Choir may sing: "In the Name of Jesus, Amen".

LITURGY FOR INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS AND WORKERS

¶ All standing, the Minister shall say and the congregation respond:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Hus L. M. (22, F) Hymn 534

Be present with Thy servants, Lord,
We look to Thee with one accord;
Refresh and strengthen us anew,
And bless what in Thy name we do.

The Lord's joy be our strength and stay,
In our employ from day to day;
Our thoughts and our activity
Through Jesus' merits hallowed be.

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom His Lord shall set over his household to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing.

Hear also what St. Paul writes: Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. For there are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit. And there are diversities of ministrations, and the same Lord. And there are diversities of workings, but the same Lord who worketh all things in all. But to each one is given the manifestation of the spirit to profit withal.

Moreover, it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.

¶ Here shall the minister address those about to be installed:

After prayerful consideration and under the leading of the Holy Spirit, you have been chosen by the membership of this church to the office of (here shall he name the officers and offices to which they have been chosen).

Are you willing to accept this position now as a trust committed to you by our Lord and Master, the Head of this body, the Church?

¶ Here shall the officers respond:

I am.

¶ Then addressing the congregation he shall say:

Brethren, inasmuch as these officers, responsible for the wellbeing of this congregation, have publicly pledged themselves under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to exert their very best efforts to this end, will you now promise to bear in mind that you as members collectively elected

them, and will you therefore pledge to support them by prayer, by word, and by work at all times?

¶ Here shall the congregation respond:

We will.

In the name of the Church's head I now declare you to be duly installed into the offices to which you have been chosen.

¶ Here shall all kneel for the prayer of consecration after which all shall rise and the minister shall say:

My beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

¶ While the following hymn is sung the minister shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the newly installed officers.

Rockingham A. M. Old (22, G) Hymn 538

In mercy, Lord, this grace bestow,
That in Thy service we may do
With gladness and a willing mind,
Whatever is for us assigned.

Grant we, impelled by Thy love,
In smallest things may faithful prove;
Till we depart, we wish to be
Devoted wholly unto Thee.

¶ Here shall all unite in saying:

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass or a clanging cymbol. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing. For now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

T. Marenzo (146, A) Hymn 309

Lord, grant Thy servants grace
All needful gifts bestowing,
That, all due faithfulness
They in their service showing,
Their duties as they ought
May punctually be done;
Then with success, when wrought,
Their work vouchsafe to crown.